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TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF REQUIRING GRADUATES OF
THE CHAPLAIN OFFICER ORIENTATION COURSE TO ENROLL IN, AND
COMPLETE CERTAIN EXTENSION COURSES AS A PRE-REQUISITE FOR
ATTENDANCE AT THE CHAPLAIN OFFICER CAREER COURSE.

(UNCLASSIFIED)

U.S. Army Chaplain School
Fort Hamilton, N.Y.
100800 December 62

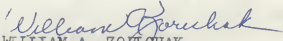
SUBJECT: Compulsory professional and military training for United States Army Chaplains.

1. PROBLEM. To determine the feasibility of requiring graduates of the Chaplain Officer Orientation Course to enroll in, and complete certain Extension Courses as a pre-requisite for attendance at the Chaplain Officer Career Course.
2. ASSUMPTIONS. The completion of certain Extension Courses prior to attendance at the Chaplain Officer Career Course would have the following characteristics:
 - a. Provide a direct and progressive assimilation of current school solutions and guidance within actual situations.
 - b. Provide a continuity of training for the individual chaplain at his duty station.
 - c. Prepare chaplains to assume positions of responsibility even prior to attendance at resident career course.
 - d. Subject matter, number of courses, and lessons in each course, would be rigidly controlled and spaced to assure completion.
 - e. Records of courses completed and periodical progress reports would be made through Command Channels.
3. FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM. Current Army policies and doctrines relating to United States Officer and Chaplain training as expressed in:
 - a. TM 20 - 605 Career Management for Army Officers
 - b. FM 16 - 5 The Chaplain
 - c. AR 630 - 5
 - d. USCONARC Circular 350 - 95
 - e. 1962 Catalogue of U.S. Army Chaplain Extension Courses
4. DISCUSSION
 - a. Advantages
 - (1) Progressive and systematic advancement in professional competency.
 - (2) All chaplains would have an opportunity to comply with current army policies.
 - (3) Adequate transition from basic to career course.
 - (4) Job orientation toward particular assignments.
 - (5) Implement theoretical knowledge with practical experience.
 - (6) Keep alive the study habits of chaplains.
 - b. Disadvantages
 - (1) Would increase administrative work load on presently limited nonresident faculty.
 - (2) Modification would have to be made in the present non resident budget to provide money for such a program.
 - c. For details, see ANNEX A, discussion.

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5. CONCLUSION. Enrollment in, and the completion of, certain Extension Courses be made a mandatory pre-requisite for attendance at Chaplain Officer Career Course.
6. ACTION RECOMMENDED. Conclusion in paragraph 5 should be approved.


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ANNEX A - Discussion

ACTION BY APPROVING AUTHORITY

Approved(disapproved)including(excluding) exceptions noted.

Signature

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ANNEX A - Discussion

On the basis of our assumptions, facts bearing on the problem, and current Army policies, we must discuss the problem in the light of the following:

- a. Current requirements of United States Army Chaplains for high standards of profession and military knowledge.
- b. Current education and training programs for United States Army Chaplains.
- c. Motivation to achieve the desired standards of knowledge within current facilities.
- a. Current requirements of the United States Army Chaplains for high standard of -

- 1) Professional knowledge. The chaplain is a clergyman in uniform. The duties of the Army Chaplain as a spiritual and religious leader stem from his profession as a clergyman. Every denomination requires years of formal training and education before an applicant is considered competent for Ordination and is allowed to represent that denomination. This judgement of professional competency is the basis for the ecclesiastical indorsement which is a principal requirement to qualify for appointment as a chaplain in any component of the Army.

"A principal requirement to qualify for appointment as a chaplain in any component of the Army is an ecclesiastical indorsement. This indorsement is submitted by the applicant's denomination to the Office of the Adjutant General. The withdrawal of a chaplain's ecclesiastical indorsement by the denomination which he represents is basis for action by the Adjutant General's Office to terminate his commission and separate him from the service." (FM 16-5 Ch.2 Sect. III para 15)

The Army's high regard and deep concern for the maintenance of high level professional skill is expressed in AR 630-5 allowing Commanders to grant administrative absence at no expense to the government for a chaplain to attend conferences, meetings, and spiritual exercises sponsored by his denomination.

"Commanders may grant administrative absence at no expense to the government for such purposes as attendance at conferences and meetings of his denomination or engage in spiritual exercises e.g. religious retreats, sponsored by his denomination and to keep their spiritual life and church relationship at the highest level." (FM 16-5 Chap.2 Sect. III para 16)

"In addition, when a denomination requirement exists, a chaplain may be authorized administrative absence for a period not to exceed ninety days upon completion of approximately five years initial active duty."
(FM 16-5 Chap.2 Sect III para 16b)

- 2) Military knowledge. A problem of definition is involved and for the purpose of clarity, we make this distinction. We consider military education to imply instruction or individual study for the purpose of intellectual development provided in schools without regard to the student's job assignment in a unit. Training on the other hand, identifies instruction that is orientated to a particular military specialty and is designed to develop a technical skill. Training in this sense is directed primarily toward the individual and is job orientated. With this distinction in mind we have -

a. Resident courses at the United States Army Chaplain School providing education. Resident instruction at the school is currently given in two levels.

(1) Basic level (16-A-C1) This course is designed for newly commissioned chaplains and for officers in the seminarian program. Length is 9 weeks.

(2) Advanced level (16-A-C22) This includes the chaplain officer Career Course. Length is 16 weeks.

b. Resident courses in specialized studies are available not only in military schools but in civilian universities and colleges. This type of instruction is also education according to our accepted distinction.

c. Non-resident Instruction Department of the United States Army Chaplain School supervises the preparation of correspondence courses. This type of instruction received through correspondence is considered training according to our distinction. The 1962 catalogue of Army Extension Courses issued by the department of Nonresident Instruction at Fort Hamilton, New York, lists the courses available and the subject matter to be covered in each course. Similar catalogues of nonresident instruction courses and institutions offering correspondence courses in specialized subjects are available at all Army Education Offices.

Our plan would affect the newly commissioned chaplain from the time that he is graduated from the basic course. At that time he would be assigned to his first duty station and would come under the control of a supervisory chaplain. This supervisory chaplain would have the responsibility of evaluating his particular training requirements.

- b. Current education and training programs for United States Army Chaplains.

A chaplain assigned to duty in a Combat Unit, for example, would be directed by his supervisory chaplain to enroll immediately in a correspondence course with special emphasis on subjects such as the following:

1. Combined Arms: Introduction to and brief history of the development of Combined Arms, with particular emphasis upon the three divisions of the U.S. Army; command and administration of the infantry division battle group; combat operations of the battle group, to include both offensive and defensive operations.
2. CBR Warfare: Presentation of fundamental characteristics, capabilities, and limitations of CBR Warfare; examination of Chemical, Biological, and Radiological agents. Protective measures taken by the individual in event CBR is introduced; unit responsibility in CBR.
3. Effective Military Writing: An introduction to the principles and techniques of effective military writing with particular emphasis on military correspondence, staff studies, and other staff writing.
4. Combat Psychiatry: General orientation to combat psychiatry; the concepts of behavior as applied to the purpose and functions of military neuropsychiatry; causes, manifestations, and recognition of combat exhaustion and other reactions to stress, their management and treatment at division, Army, and communications zone levels; symptom evaluation; psychological aspects of illness and injury; organization; logistical and tactical aspects of psychiatric service in combat and problems associated with disaster.

If the chaplain were assigned to a hospital the prescribed courses would include the following:

1. Nuclear and Medical Support: Introduction to nuclear warfare; development of nuclear energy which made possible the nuclear weapon; blast, burn, and radiation effects of explosion; relation to type of burst employed. Mass casualties; first aid procedures; chaplain religious ministrations; medical support in target area; evacuation levels. Protection before, during, and after nuclear explosion; its relationship to warning systems.
2. Psychology and Counseling: Description and explanation of psychological principles; reactions and behavior problems as they effect members of the military and their families; the study of personality development relative to understanding and counselling individuals involved in emotional problems.
3. Denominational Coverage Requirements: A study of the denominational requirements of military personnel to determine necessary chaplain coverage, to include: general consideration of authority and responsibility; requirements of three major faiths and other denominational groups; employment of auxiliary chaplains.

If the chaplain were assigned to a Logistical Unit he would be expected to take courses such as the following:

1. Funds: A study of the principles, policies, and procedures involved in the establishment and operation of Army non-appropriated funds; proper accounting procedures for installation and unit chaplain funds, to include a Consolidated Chaplain Fund.
2. Management and Comptrollership: Introduction to management; management aids available to commanders; principles and functions of management; management improvement programs; Army primary programs and their relationship to the budget; familiarization with the Army budget process to include formulation, authorization, and execution; budgeting at installation level; organization and functions of the comptroller; history and development of comptrollership in the Army; comptroller activities.
3. Chaplain Supply Procedures: Supply procedures to include definitions of terms; authorization media; preparation of supply forms; maintenance of records; adjustment procedures; military construction with emphasis upon chapel construction; introduction to logistical commands.

Immediate supervisory chaplains would not only set these courses up for the subordinate chaplain but at frequent intervals would personally check on the progress of that chaplain and assist him in any difficulties.

Under such a training policy, the chaplain would be job orientated and would definitely improve the chaplains' role in the unit. As he moves from one assignment to another he would develop a clear understanding of the mission of the army. His training and actual experience would prepare him to assume positions of higher level. In a position of higher responsibility the chaplain would be better prepared to handle problems originating in the units and could effectively guide and advise chaplains now occupying the very positions he once held.

Training by correspondence under the close supervision of an immediate supervisory chaplain would provide the continuity of learning between the two levels of basic and career courses now offered in residence at the U.S. Army Chaplain School. It would bridge the time gap and constitute a period of effective apprenticeship for the career course.

When such a definite course has been tested in the field of experience the resident career course could be conducted on a higher level of graduate studies including seminars, intelligent group discussions, research, and a pooling of mutual experiences brought into conformity with latest Army theories and policies.

It would provide a wealth of tested opinions and suggestions that could be utilized to improve the overall chaplain Branch. A course so tested in the field and retested in the classroom would provide the opportunity of re-educating the student and instructor alike.

The typical Army Chaplain is a staff advisor, administrator, marriage counselor, psychologist and comptroller in his own section. No amount of highly concentrated courses offered in residence at the United States Army Chaplain School could give specific preparation for any of these jobs. It is not so much the education that counts but the self education and self discipline that keeps one driving ahead constantly alert to meet new challenges with the proper tools. Men are prone to rely on facts acquired in basic courses. When a man stops studying he becomes a victim of mediocrity. An effective program of continuing study must be established and maintained.

c. Motivation to achieve the desired standards of knowledge within current facilities.

The Commander has responsibilities to his officers as well as to his unit. It is the Commander's duty to advance the military and professional qualifications of all personnel under his command. This, of necessity, includes the chaplain.

The completion of certain courses required by command would eliminate the confusion of personal choice and subject matter and assure systematic progress. Command control and supervision of definite courses would prepare the chaplain gradually and systematically for greater responsibilities demanded by higher rank or the peculiar circumstances of his command.

Command supervision of mandatory studies would give official recognition for self improvement and self education. The chaplain would be an integral part of the command program of education and self improvement commonly found in other branches of the service that make up a command. He would enjoy the studied assistance of fellow officers in those areas where coordination from these officers is required in actual situations.

